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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

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SUBJ: ANOTHER MINI-SCANDAL FOR THE GOVERNMENT

1. SUMMARY. IT IS NOW PUBLIC THAT TWO COALITION BUNDESTAG DEPUTIES WERE ON THE PAYROLL OF THE PUBLISHING HOUSE THAT OWNS QUICK, ONE OF THE HARSHTEST CRITICS OF THE BRANDT/SCHEEL GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. A NEW FACET OF THE QUICK AFFAIR (SEE BONN'S 11105) IS CURRENTLY EMBARRASSING THE GOVERNMENT. PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY FOR THE INTERIOR MINISTRY WOVLFRAM DORN (FDP) HAS CONFIRMED A SPIEGAL STORY THAT HE WAS PAID THREE THOUSAND DM A MONTH FROM SEPTEMBER 1969 TO SEPTEMBER 1971 AS AN ADVISOR TO THE BAUER VERLAG, QUICK'S PARENT FIRM. IT IS ALSO NOW PUBLIC THAT PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY FOR THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE JOACHIM RAFFERT (SPD) WAS ALSO ON BAUER'S PAYROLL BEFORE BECOMING A STATE SECRETARY BUT AFTER HE HAD BECOME A BUNDESTAG DEPUTY.

3. THE FEDERAL PRESS OFFICE HAS SAID THAT AS NO ILLEGALITY WAS INVOLVED THERE WILL BE "NO CONSEQUENCES AS FAR AS EMPLOYMENT IS CONCERNED," BUT THE CHANCELLOR HAS EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT SUCH AN AGREEMENT OUGHT NOT TO BE MAINTAINED DURING THE PERIOD WHEN THE AGENT IS A PARLIAMENTARY STATE SECRETARY.

4. RAFFERT HAS REFUSED COMMENT BUT DORN HAS EXPLAINED THAT A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE DO THE SAME THING AND THAT HE WAS NOT IN THE HABIT OF BREAKING AGREEMENTS.

29 AUG  
1972

E/G/W. ERH  
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5. COMMENT: THIS LATEST TROUBLE FOR THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT OF MAJOR SERIOUSNESS NOR WILL IT BE LONG-LIVED. IT IS STILL SUMMER IN EUROPE AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES ARE DOMINATING CURRENT GERMAN ATTENTION. BUT IT IS ONE MORE INCIDENT TO BE ADDED TO THE LONG LIST OF MINOR EMBARRASMENTS THAT HAVE PLAGUED THIS GOVERNMENT. ITS MAIN IMPACT WILL PROBABLY BE FELT BY THE FDP. AT A MOMENT WHEN THE PARTY IS SEEKING TO BUILD AN IMAGE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND MORAL RECTITUDE APART FROM THE TWO MAJOR PARTIES, DORN'S FAILURE TO BREAK WITH QUICK EVEN IN MID-1971 WHEN IT ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF GIVING AWAY BERLIN WILL MAKE THE EFFORT SIGNIFICANTLY HARDER.

GDS. HILLENBRAND

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